

### **INDICTMENT**

The Grand Jury charges that:

### Count One

Conspiracy to Commit Hate Crimes, Kidnapping, and Carjacking (In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371)

### **Introduction**

- 1. John Doe 1 is a 57 year-old male. John Doe 2 is a 20 year-old male. John Doe 3 is a 19 year-old male. John Doe 4 is a 19 year-old male. John Doe 5 is a 29 year-old male. John Doe 6 is a 37 year-old male. John Doe 7 is a 20 year-old male.
- 2. In December of 2017, John Does 1 through 7 used Grindr.
- 3. Grindr was a cellular telephone application that calls itself "the World's Largest Social Networking App for Gay, Bi, Trans, and Queer People."
- 4. At all times relevant to this offense, Apartment #186 was a vacant apartment at the Solana Ridge Apartment Complex in Dallas, Texas.

### The Charge

Beginning in or around the first week of December 2017, and continuing thereafter up to and including December 12, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas,

**Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, did knowingly and willfully combine, conspire, and agree with each other, and with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to commit the following offenses against the United States, as charged in the remaining counts of the indictment and incorporated herein:

- a. to willfully cause bodily injury to, or through the use of a firearm or dangerous weapon attempt to cause bodily injury to, any person because of the actual or perceived sexual orientation of any person, in violation of 18 U.S.C.
   § 249(a)(2);
- b. to unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, kidnap, inveigle, decoy, abduct, or carry away and hold for ransom or reward or otherwise, and use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit, a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1); and
- c. with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm, to take, or attempt to take, from the person or presence of another, by force and violence and by intimidation, a motor vehicle that had been transported, shipped, or received in interstate or foreign commerce, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2119.

### Plan and Purpose of the Conspiracy

The plan and purpose of the conspiracy was to use Grindr, a dating app, to create fake profiles and pose as gay men interested in "dates" to lure gay men to the Solana

Ridge Apartment Complex and areas in and around Dallas, Texas in order to commit violent crimes against them, including kidnapping, assault, robbery, and carjacking.

### **Overt Acts**

In furtherance of the conspiracy, and to accomplish the objects thereof, members of the conspiracy committed, and caused to be committed, the following overt acts, among others, within the Northern District of Texas:

- 1. On or about December 7, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy used Grindr to lure John Doe 1 to the Solana Ridge Apartments in Dallas, Texas.
- 2. On or about December 7, 2017, a member of the conspiracy pointed a handgun at John Doe 1, and demanded his property.
- 3. On or about December 8, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy used Grindr to lure John Doe 2, to the Solana Ridge Apartments in Dallas, Texas.
- 4. On or about December 8, 2017, a member of the conspiracy pointed a gun at John Doe 2, and demanded his property.
- 5. On or about December 8, 2017, a member of the conspiracy hit John Doe 2 in the head with an object.
- 6. On or about December 11, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy used Grindr to lure men to areas in and around Dallas, Texas, including the Solana Ridge Apartment Complex.
- 7. On or about December 11, 2017, **Jenkins** met men at their cars and invited them into Apartment #186.

- 8. On or about December 11, 2017, **Atkinson** brought a handgun to Apartment #186.
- 9. On or about December 11, 2017, **Jenkins** pointed a handgun toward at least one man inside of Apartment #186.
- 10. On or about December 11, 2017, **Jenkins** used force and threats of force to hold at least one man inside of Apartment #186.
- 11. On or about December 11, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy physically assaulted John Doe 3 inside Apartment #186.
- 12. On or about December 11, 2017, **Jenkins** physically assaulted John Doe 4 and called John Doe 4 gay slurs inside Apartment #186.
- 13. On or about December 11, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy sexually assaulted at least one of the men being held in Apartment #186, to-wit, John Doe 4.
- 14. On or about December 11, 2017, at least one member of the conspiracy physically assaulted John Doe 5 inside Apartment #186.
- 15. On or about December 11, 2017, **Atkinson** traveled to John Doe 5's house in order to take property from John Doe 5.
- 16. On or about December 11, 2017, **Jenkins** physically assaulted John Doe 6 and called John Doe 6 gay slurs inside Apartment #186.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371.

### **Count Two**

Hate Crime Acts; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 249(a)(2) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel**Jenkins, the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand

Jury, did willfully cause bodily injury to John Doe 3, by assaulting John Doe 3, because

of John Doe 3's actual or perceived sexual orientation. The offense included kidnapping,

and **Daniel Jenkins**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,

did use a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a

cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in

connection with the conduct described herein.

### Count Three Hate Crime Acts; Aiding and Abetting

(In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 249(a)(2) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel**Jenkins, the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand

Jury, did willfully cause bodily injury to John Doe 4, by assaulting John Doe 4, because

of John Doe 4's actual or perceived sexual orientation. The offense included kidnapping,

and **Daniel Jenkins**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,

did use a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a

cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in

connection with the conduct described herein.

## Count Four Hate Crime Acts; Aiding and Abetting

(In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 249(a)(2) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins**, the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand

Jury, did willfully cause bodily injury to John Doe 5, by assaulting John Doe 5, because

of John Doe 5's actual or perceived sexual orientation. The offense included kidnapping,

and **Daniel Jenkins**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,

did use a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a

cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in

connection with the conduct described herein.

### Count Five Hate Crime Acts; Aiding and Abetting

(In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 249(a)(2) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins**, the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand

Jury, did willfully cause bodily injury to John Doe 6, by assaulting John Doe 6, because

of John Doe 6's actual or perceived sexual orientation. The offense included kidnapping,

and **Daniel Jenkins**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,

did use a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a

cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in

connection with the conduct described herein.

### **Count Six**

Kidnapping; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, inveigle, kidnap, abduct, and carry away and hold John Doe 3 for ransom or reward or otherwise, and did use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense.

# Count Seven Kidnapping; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel**Jenkins and Michael Atkinson, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, inveigle, kidnap, abduct, and carry away and hold John Doe 4 for ransom or reward or otherwise, and did use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense.

### **Count Eight**

Kidnapping; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, inveigle, kidnap, abduct, and carry away and hold John Doe 5 for ransom or reward or otherwise, and did use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense.

### Count Nine

Kidnapping; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, inveigle, kidnap, abduct, and carry away and hold John Doe 6 for ransom or reward or otherwise, and did use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense.

### Count Ten

Kidnapping; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did unlawfully and willfully seize, confine, inveigle, kidnap, abduct, and carry away and hold John Doe 7 for ransom or reward or otherwise, and did use a means, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a cellular telephone, a cellular telephone application ("app"), and the internet, in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense.

# Count Eleven Carjacking; Aiding and Abetting (In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2119 and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel Jenkins** and **Michael Atkinson**, the defendants, aided and abetted by each other and by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm, did take a motor vehicle that had been transported, shipped, and received in interstate or foreign commerce, to-wit: a 2017 Nissan Altima bearing a vehicle identification number (VIN) with the last four digits of 6642, from the person or presence of another, namely, John Doe 4, by force and violence and by intimidation.

### Count Twelve

Using, Carrying, and Brandishing a Firearm During and in Relation to, and Possessing and Brandishing a Firearm in Furtherance of, a Crime of Violence;
Aiding and Abetting
(In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(c)(1)(A)(ii) and 2)

On or about December 11, 2017, in the Northern District of Texas, **Daniel**Jenkins, the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand

Jury, did knowingly use, carry, and brandish a firearm, to-wit: a handgun, during and in relation to a crime of violence, to-wit: carjacking, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2119, as alleged in Count Eleven of this indictment, for which the defendant may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, and the defendant, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly possess and brandish said firearm in furtherance of the commission of this offense.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(c)(1)(A)(ii) and 2.

A TRUE BILL

FOREPERSON

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### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

### DANIEL JENKINS (01) MICHAEL ATKINSON (02)

#### **INDICTMENT**

18 U.S.C. § 371 Conspiracy to Commit Hate Crimes, Kidnapping, and Carjacking (Count 1)

> 18 U.S.C. §§ 249(a)(2) and 2 Hate Crime Acts (Counts 2-5)

18 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 2 Kidnapping (Counts 6-10)

> 18 U.S.C. §§ 2119 and 2 Carjacking (Counts 11)

18 U.S.C. §§ 924(c) and 2
Use, Carry, Brandish and Possess Firearms During, and in Relation to, and in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence
(Count 12)

12 Counts

A true bill rendered		
DALLAS		FOREPERSON

Filed in open court this 7th day of August, 2018.

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UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

No Criminal Matter Pending